

U.S. Embassy  
Dakar, Senegal

**For travelers from Visa Waiver Program (VWP) countries:**

The Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) is a new, fully automated, electronic system for screening passengers before they begin travel to the United States under the Visa Waiver Program. ESTA applications may be submitted at any time prior to travel to the United States, and VWP travelers are encouraged to apply for authorization as soon as they begin to plan a trip to the United States. **This service is now available for use on a voluntary basis; it is anticipated that ESTA will become mandatory for VWP travelers on January 12, 2009.**

**To find out more, please visit the [ESTA](#) page on the DHS Customs and Border Protection (CBP) website.**

*Please note that there are currently no VWP countries in West Africa. This information is provided for travelers from third countries who may be residing in Embassy Dakar's consular district.*